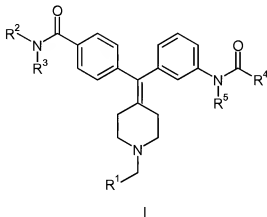


In the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of claims

1. (original) A compound of formula I, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, diastereomers, enantiomers, or mixtures thereof:



wherein

R¹ is selected from C₆₋₁₀aryl and C₂₋₆heteroaryl, wherein said C₆₋₁₀aryl and C₂₋₆heteroaryl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from -R, -NO₂, -OR, -Cl, -Br, -I, -F, -CF₃, -C(=O)R, -C(=O)OH, -NH₂, -SH, -NHR, -NR₂, -SR, -SO₃H, -SO₂R, -S(=O)R, -CN, -OH, -C(=O)OR, -C(=O)NR₂, -NRC(=O)R, and -NRC(=O)-OR, wherein R is, independently, a hydrogen or C₁₋₆alkyl; and

R², R³, R⁴ and R⁵ are, independently, selected from hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, and C₃₋₆cycloalkyl, wherein said C₁₋₆alkyl and C₃₋₆cycloalkyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from -R, -NO₂, -OR, -Cl, -Br, -I, -F, -CF₃, -C(=O)R, -C(=O)OH, -NH₂, -SH, -NHR, -NR₂, -SR, -SO₃H, -SO₂R, -S(=O)R, -CN, -OH, -C(=O)OR, -C(=O)NR₂, -NRC(=O)R, and -NRC(=O)-OR, wherein R is, independently, a hydrogen or C₁₋₆alkyl.

2. (currently amended) A compound according to claim 1,

wherein R¹ is selected from phenyl; pyridyl; thienyl; furyl; imidazolyl; triazolyl; pyrrolyl; thiazolyl; and N-oxido-pyridyl, wherein R¹ is optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from C₁₋₆alkyl, halogenated C₁₋₆alkyl, -NO₂, -CF₃, C₁₋₆alkoxy, chloro, fluoro, bromo, and iodo;

R², R³, and R⁴ are, independently, C₁₋₃alkyl or halogenated C₁₋₃alkyl; and

R⁵ is selected from hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, and C₃₋₆cycloalkyl, wherein said C₁₋₆alkyl and C₃₋₆cycloalkyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from C₁₋₆alkyl, halogenated C₁₋₆alkyl, -NO₂, -CF₃, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, chloro, fluoro, bromo, and iodo.

3. (original) A compound according to claim 1,

wherein R¹ is selected from phenyl; pyridyl; thienyl; furyl; imidazolyl; pyrrolyl; and thiazolyl, wherein R¹ is optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from C₁₋₆alkyl, halogenated C₁₋₆alkyl, -NO₂, -CF₃, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, chloro, fluoro, bromo, and iodo;

R², R³, and R⁴ are, independently, C₁₋₃alkyl or halogenated C₁₋₃alkyl; and

R⁵ is hydrogen.

4. (original) A compound according to claim 1,

wherein R¹ is selected from phenyl, pyridyl, thienyl, furyl, imidazolyl, pyrrolyl, and thiazolyl;

R² and R³ are ethyl;

R⁴ is C₁₋₃alkyl; and

R⁵ is hydrogen.

5. (original) A compound according to claim 1, wherein the compound is selected from:

4-[[3-(acetylamino)phenyl][1-(thien-2-ylmethyl)piperidin-4-ylidene]methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;

4-[[3-(acetylamino)phenyl][1-(2-furylmethyl)piperidin-4-ylidene]methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;

4-[[3-(acetylamino)phenyl][1-(phenylmethyl)-4-piperidinylidene]methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;

4-[[3-(acetylamino)phenyl][1-(3-thienylmethyl)-4-piperidinylidene]methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;

4-[[3-(acetylamino)phenyl][1-(3-pyridinylmethyl)-4-piperidinylidene]methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;

4-[[3-(acetylamino)phenyl][1-(4-pyridinylmethyl)-4-piperidinylidene]methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;

4-[[3-(acetylamino)phenyl][1-(pyridin-2-ylmethyl)piperidin-4-ylidene]methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;

4-[[3-(acetylamino)phenyl][1-(1,3-thiazol-4-ylmethyl)piperidin-4-ylidene]methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide;

4-[[3-(acetylamino)phenyl][1-(1,3-thiazol-5-ylmethyl)piperidin-4-ylidene]methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide; and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

6. (cancelled)

7. (withdrawn) A method for the therapy of pain, anxiety or functional gastrointestinal disorders comprising the step of administering to said animal in need of such therapy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

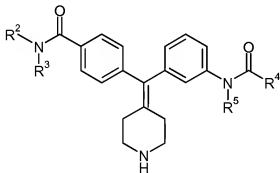
8. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

9. (withdrawn) A method for the therapy of pain in a warm-blooded animal, comprising the step of administering to said animal in need of such therapy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

10. (withdrawn) A method for the therapy of functional gastrointestinal disorders in a warm-blooded animal, comprising the step of administering to said animal in need of such therapy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

11-12. (cancelled)

13. (original) A compound of formula III:



III

wherein

R^2 , R^3 , R^4 and R^5 are, independently, selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, and C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, wherein said C_{1-6} alkyl and C_{3-6} cycloalkyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from -R, -NO₂, -OR, -Cl, -Br, -I, -F, -CF₃, -C(=O)R, -C(=O)OH, -NH₂, -SH, -NHR, -NR₂, -SR, -SO₃H, -SO₂R, -S(=O)R, -CN, -OH, -C(=O)OR, -C(=O)NR₂, -NRC(=O)R, and -NRC(=O)-OR, wherein R is, independently, a hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl.

14. (withdrawn) A method for the therapy of pain, anxiety or functional gastrointestinal disorders comprising the step of administering to said animal in need of such therapy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 2.

15. (withdrawn) A method for the therapy of pain, anxiety or functional gastrointestinal disorders comprising the step of administering to said animal in need of such therapy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 3.

16. (withdrawn) A method for the therapy of anxiety comprising the step of administering to said animal in need of such therapy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

17. (withdrawn) A method for the therapy of anxiety comprising the step of administering to said animal in need of such therapy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 2.

18. (withdrawn) A method for the therapy of anxiety comprising the step of administering to said animal in need of such therapy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 3.

19. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 2 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

20. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 3 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

21. (new) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 4 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

22. (new) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 5 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

23. (new) A compound according to claim 13, wherein the compound is 4-[[3-(acetylamino)phenyl](piperidin-4-ylidene)methyl]-N,N-diethylbenzamide.